



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
New York District



Salt Marsh Mitigation Project at KeySpan Corporation, Staten Island, N.Y.

Project Facts

One of the first wetland sites identified for restoration by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is the Salt Marsh Mitigation Project at KeySpan Corporation in Staten Island, New York. It was selected to compensate for the potential, unavoidable shallow water impacts resulting from the deepening of the Arthur Kill Channel in the New York and New Jersey Harbor. Currently, the Corps, along with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, is deepening the channels in the harbor as part of an overall harbor effort to ensure safe and efficient channels for the larger class of vessels calling at the port. As environmental stewards of the harbor, the partners are committed to maintaining, restoring, and enhancing the environmental sustainability of the Port of New York and New Jersey in addition to maintaining and improving its navigability. One of the ways the Corps accomplishes its mission is through sustainable development that seeks and implements the best environmental solutions, which includes wetlands restoration and mitigation.

On Sept. 28, 2005, the Corps awarded a \$5.4 million contract for the restoration of the KeySpan Corporation site to the New York Concrete Corporation of Staten Island, N.Y. Covering approximately nine acres adjacent to the KeySpan facility, the project site encompasses the tidally influenced portion of Old Place Creek adjacent to the Arthur Kill Channel in Staten Island, N.Y. As a result of the *Phragmites australis* or common reed that dominate the area, the marsh area of the site is tidally restricted.

Work on site has completed the low and high marsh plantings. The *Phragmites* have been removed. The site has been graded to elevations advantageous to native species. 36,200 cubic yard of material were removed. Approximately 107,000 *Spartina Alterniflora* and *Spartina Patens* plugs were planted. Marine shrub species will be planted starting in mid-October.

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